

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 16, 18 and 19 remain in this application. Claims 1-20 are rejected. Claims 1-20 are objected to. Claims 3, 4, 6, 8-11, 13-15, and 17, and 20 are cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 16, 18 and 19 are amended herein to clarify the invention, and to address matters of form unrelated to substantive patentability issues.

Claims 1-20 are objected to due to various informalities. Claims 1-20 are also rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention as a result of informalities stated in the Office Action. Claims 3, 4, 6, 8-11, 13-15, and 17, and 20 are cancelled rendering their rejections moot and the remaining claims are amended to remove or correct the informalities noted in the Office Action. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 16, 18 and 19 and their allowance are earnestly requested.

Claims 1-4, 9-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Morgan. Claim 5 is rejected as obvious over Morgan under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 6 and 7 are rejected as obvious over Morgan in view of Belanger under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claim 8 is rejected as obvious over Morgan in view of Belanger and further in view of Weschenfelder under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Claim 19 is rejected as obvious over Morgan in view of Kleber under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The applicant herein respectfully traverses these rejections.

“Under 35 U.S.C. §102, anticipation requires that each and every element of the claimed invention be disclosed in the prior art reference. ... In addition, the prior art reference must be enabling, thus placing the allegedly disclosed matter in the possession of the public.” *Akzo N.V. v. U.S. International Trade Commission*, 1 USPQ2d 1241, 1245 (Fed. Cir. 1986), *cert. denied*, 482 U.S. 909 (1987). “To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine the reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on the applicant's disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991).” MPEP §706.02(j) “Contents of a 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection”. It is respectfully submitted that the cited references fail to disclose at least the following features and elements of the present invention.

It is believed that brief overview of the invention will be helpful in identifying the distinguishing features of the invention. The present invention is a new design of a satellite press based on cassette units with a plate and or blanket cylinder with only one common impression cylinder with a double sided satellite arrangement of printing units (one upper and one lower arc) allowing for frontside printing of at least 5 colors and at least one color for duplex printing of sheets without turning the sheet itself. This allows for a very compact and cost effective single unit design and allows still for full size printing on both sides of the sheet. This overview is for clarifying the operation of the invention for the Examiner and is not intended to define claim limitations.

The subject matter of claims 6 and 8 is now incorporated into claim 1 with the exception of the perfecting group. The Morgan reference is insufficient for rejecting claim 1 because Morgan does not teach a satellite printing machine but a modular press and Belanger does not teach cassette units which can be shifted axially but it shows and describes adjustment means separating "eccentrically" the transfer cylinder from the impression cylinder. Such a means of adjustment does not allow the cylinders to move out of the machine itself and therefore do not provide extra accessibility. Thus, the units are not moved axially into a servicing position. Furthermore, the number of printing units is limited to 4 only.

Referring to claim 7, Morgan teaches a modular printing press. However a modular press has plenty of space and with it accessibility and with it as well a very large footprint investment. To the contrary, a satellite type of press has a very limited footprint and investment because of the single common impression cylinder. However, heretofore such a configuration was limited in number of printing units to 4 because servicing and access to more was not practical. Space is needed around the imaging cylinder carrying the image-plate. This factor demands as well space between the printing units. The cassette construction for the plate and or blanket cylinder provides for maximum space around these cylinders to incorporate imaging and cleaning components and allows the cassettes to be spaced very close to each other. With such axial displacement outside of the machine frame the innovative design provides excellent accessibility to the plate and or blanket cylinder

Providing 5 or more printing units arranged around a common impression cylinder is not obvious because of the problems involving servicing and cleaning. The image plate and blanket sheet must be changed at regular intervals. If 5 or more printing units are situated around one common impression cylinder one has to provide also space for accessibility in between the printing units in order to allow for cleaning and change. In doing so the size, notably the height and costs needed for 5 printing units and with it its in-and outfeed systems of the press will

be enormous and almost impossible to handle for an operator. The worlds leading printing press manufacturer, the Heidelberger corporation, confirms this in their DE 4303796A4 "More than 4 printing units around a common impression cylinder are not possible, because of accessibility reasons." The "Germann" type presses (as per US 5,136,942) need more than one common blanket cylinder and the costs of manufacturing are approx. 5 to 20 fold. These kinds of presses have a very limited application, notably in the field of banknote printing for highly specialized big companies. The present invention provides a satellite press which costs approx. 1/5 to 1/10 of the "Germann" type press while still offering the same advantages as duplex printing with minimal register tolerances and is better equipped for the printing of thick substrates, such as cardboard, multiple substrates, or pre-manufactured envelopes, because of the minimum of cylinder passings and the relative big circumferences of these few cylinders.

With regard to claim 7, it is not obvious and not possible to incorporate alike Morgan extra transfer and plate cylinders to the common impression cylinder since the invention relating to the front and backside printing depends on the innovative idea to cover the impression cylinder with a blanket. This provides for duplex printing. Morgan and Belanger presses are equipped with naked-steel impression cylinders which are surfaced with chromed in order to reject as much

as possible the transfer of ink where as in the present invention the impression cylinder is covered with a rubber substance in the form of a blanket-sheet notably to accept the transfer of ink and so allowing for front- and backside printing with only one single common impression cylinder.

With regard to claim 12, Morgan does not teach a oblique adjustment. The adjustments 88, 89 are for pressure setting purposes not for register settings.


With regard to claim 19, Morgan and Kleber only incorporate anti-backlash gears to provide for the register with both cylinders in contact (pressure actuated) The present innovative spring-mounted clogging system provides not only for antibacklash when both cylinders are in the on position (pressure actuated) but notably in the off position (with pressure take-off) to allow for best possible precision when imaging (whereby both cylinders should be in the off position).

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejected claims are not obvious in view of the cited references for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 16, 18 and 19 and their allowance are respectfully requested.


Applicant respectfully requests a one month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. Please charge the fee of \$110.00 for the extension of time to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX I

AMENDED CLAIMS WITH AMENDMENTS INDICATED THEREIN
BY BRACKETS AND UNDERLINING

1. (Amended) A satellite printing machine [, especially a] for rotary offset printing machine, [with] comprising:

a common counter-pressure cylinder [(2) and] ;

a feed system for feeding counter-pressure cylinder;

a delivery system engaging the counter-pressure cylinder;

at least [one] five printing [group (S, S') or the like, which is] assemblies disposed as satellite printing units to engage the common counter-pressure cylinder along a segment from [between a] the feed system [(3) and a] to the delivery system [(4)] in [the] a direction of rotation (D) [thereof,] of the common counter-pressure cylinder;

the at least five printing assemblies including [wherein the] plate cylinders and [/or] rubber blanket cylinders [(5, 6) of the printing group (S, S') and/or] ;
[perfecting printing group]

the plate cylinders and the rubber blanket cylinders of the at least five printing assemblies being disposed in [are constructed as a cassette-shaped

modular] cassette units [unit (C, C'), which can be shifted] shiftable sideways in a direction parallel to a rotational axial direction of the common counter-pressure cylinder from a use position [axially] into a servicing position.

2. (Amended) The printing machine of claim 1, wherein the cassette units [(C, C')] alternatively can be shifted in either direction of the [axis of rotation (A)] of the rotational axial direction of the counter-pressure cylinder [(2)] into the servicing position.

5. (Amended) The printing machine of one of claims 1 or 2, further comprising an electronic imaging apparatus for acting on the cassette units in their servicing positions wherein the cassette units [(C, C')] are supported in their servicing position in a dust-free environment.

7. (Amended) The printing machine of [claim 6] claims 1 or 2, wherein the common counter-pressure cylinder is covered by a blanket and the satellite printing machine has one or more perfecting printing groups [(W) as a cassette-shaped modular unit or] engaging the common counter-pressure cylinder along a segment in the rotation direction of the common counter-pressure cylinder from the delivery system to the feed system, each of the one or more perfecting groups being

disposed in cassette units having inking and damping groups [,] which can be shifted in a direction parallel to the rotational axial direction of the common counter-pressure cylinder [jointly with their inking and damping groups axially] into [the] servicing [position] positions.

12. (Amended) The printing machine of claims 1 or 2, wherein [a] the plate [cylinder (5)] cylinders of the cassette units [(C, C')] is] are seated in [a] cassette [housing, so that it can] housings to be adjusted axially in [the] a peripheral direction and obliquely, and adjusting means [(21)] are provided [for] to make adjustments [even] while the printing machine is running.

16. (Amended) The printing machine of claims 1 or 2, wherein [additional units, such as] illustrating devices and cleaning devices [or the like (41)] are provided within [the] a range of displacement of the cassette units [(C, C')].

18. (Amended) The printing machine of claim 1 or 2, [wherein] further comprising a supporting guide assembly [(44) is] provided within [the] a range of displacement of the cassette units [(C, C')] for supporting the cassette units.

19. (Amended) The printing machine of the claim [13] 1, wherein the cassette units include [the] gear wheel connections [, which are provided within the area of the] for interfacing with a servo drive [(40, 43)] between the plate cylinder [(5)] and the rubber blanket cylinder [(6),] which are [so] supported by a spring-mounted compensating cogging system [, that the] such that gear wheels intermesh without backlash during [the] pressure actuation and [the] pressure take-off.